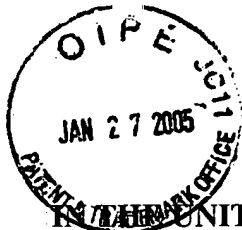


PATENT

DOCKET NO. 114174.00014



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Serial No.: 09/720,762

Confirmation No.: 5214

Applicant: Yanase, et al.

Title: GASKET WITH TAPERED SLANT FOR USE IN A PRE-FILLED
SYRINGE AND PRE-FILLED SYRINGE

Filed: December 28, 2000

Art Unit: 3746

Examiner: Sayoc, Emmanuel

Atty Docket: 114174.00014

Customer No. 38492

I certify that this correspondence, along with any documents referred to therein, is being <transmitted by facsimile on January 24, 2005 to Art Unit 3746 at FAX no. 703-872-9306 and deposited with the United States Postal Service on January 24, 2005 as First Class Mail in an envelope with sufficient postage addressed to <Mail Stop RCE / Art Unit 3746>, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

<AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION >

<Mail Stop RCE / Art Unit 3746>
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Applicant hereby provides this paper in response to the Office Action mailed August 24, 2004. A Request for Continued Examination transmittal (2 copies) and a Petition for Extension of Time for five (5) months are also submitted herewith.

Kindly amend the application as follows.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS begin on page 2 of this paper.

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS begin on page 4 of this paper.

I certify that this correspondence, along with any documents referred to therein, is being <transmitted by facsimile on January 24, 2005 to Art Unit 3746 at FAX no. 703-872-9306 and deposited with the United States Postal Service on January 24, 2005 as First Class Mail in an envelope with sufficient postage addressed to <Mail Stop RCE / Art Unit 3746>, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.